Claims

[c1] A method for inventory management of a plurality of transportation vehicles wherein each vehicle has an active RF transmitter in communication with a diagnostic service bus on said vehicle, said method comprising the steps of:
defining a service area for active transmission between said RF transmitter and a server specific to said service area;
communicating data relevant to said transportation vehicle from said transmitter to said server automatically and in real time; and
determining an inventory of transportation vehicles within said predefined service area.

[c2] 2.The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of communicating a time said vehicle entered said predefined service area to said server.

[c3] 3.The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of communicating a time said vehicle left said predefined service area to said server.

[c4] 4.The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
communicating a time said vehicle entered said predefined service area to said server; and
communicating a time said vehicle left said predefined service area to said server.

[c5] 5.The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
determining a location of a predetermined number of vehicles having predetermined characteristics, including a destination site; and
delivering said predetermined number of vehicles to said destination site.

[c6] 6.A method for service management of a plurality of transportation vehicles wherein each vehicle has an active RF transmitter in communication with a diagnostic service bus on said vehicle, said method comprising the steps of:
defining a service area for active transmission between said RF transmitter and a server specific to said service area;

communicating data relevant to said transportation vehicle from said transmitter to said server automatically and in real time; and
determining if a service procedure is necessary on said vehicle based on said communicated data.

[c7] 7.The method as claimed in claim 6 further comprising the steps of:
communicating a time said vehicle entered said predefined service area to said server; and
communicating a time said vehicle left said predefined service area to said server.

[c8] 8.A method for automated check-in of a rental vehicle having an active transmitter at a rental vehicle site having a service area defined by an antenna communication system and a server, said method comprising the steps of:
communicating a vehicle identification number of said rental vehicle upon said rental vehicle entering said predefined service area to said server;
communicating a fuel level of said rental vehicle to said server; and
communicating a mileage of said rental vehicle to said server.

[c9] 9.The method as claimed in claim 8 further comprising the step of determining necessary service procedures for said rental vehicle upon check-in.

[c10] 10.The method as claimed in claim 9 further comprising the step of identifying said rental vehicle for preparation to be rented again.